(b) whether most of the arms equipment development projects including Light Combat Aircraft undertaken by DRDO has ended up in huge time and cost overruns; and

(c) whether the rate of indeginisation on DRDO developd equipments has only touched 30 per cent against the target of 70 per cent set for the Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) Review Committee constituted by the Government to suggest measure for improving the functioning of DRDO *inter alia* Ministry of Defence, and Services has submitted its report to the Government on 5th March, 2008. It is under study of the Government.

(b) There had been delays in some of the DRDO projects due to some genuine difficulties, like technical complexities, technological embargo/sanctions, non-availability of infrastructure within the country, extended and long lasting user trials, revision of systems specifications during development phase, etc. Besides many constraints, DRDO had equipped services with state-of-the-art technologies in the field of strategic systems, battle tanks, electronic warfare and communication systems, armour and armaments, life support systems, naval systems, missile systems, aerospace systems, etc.

(c) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is developing only defence-critical/denied technologies and strategic systems. In this area, DRDO has ensured 100% self-reliance. As far as the tactical systems are concerned, DRDO is responsible for design, development, trials and evaluation as and when tasked by Government. Acceptance of DRDO developed systems and their subsequent production and induction depends on users and identified production agencies, Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs) and Ordanance Factories (OFs). Achieving self-reliance is a responsibility that has to be met through national effort by DPSUs, OFs, Private industries and DRDO, jointly. DRDO works with the production agencies to resolve the major problems during the production.

**Delivery of warship purchased from USA**

3128. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the warship purchased from the USA has reached India and if so, when,

(b) what is the life of that ship in USA and what her life has been fixed in India;

(c) how far this ship is better and superior to that ship which is being purchased by India at hiking increased prices from Russia; and

(d) the main reasons for not making even a single warship by India after achieving independence since 1947?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) The ship arrived in India in September, 2007.

(b) The ship was 36 years old, but the Indian Navy assessed her residual life to be over 10 years.

(c) The ship is a Landing Platform Dock (LPD). India is not purchasing any Landing Platform Dock from Russia.

(d) A number of major/minor warships were constructed in India over the last four decades